

Message Text

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ACTION SS-30

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6760

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 3405

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UR US

SUBJ: POSSIBLE HIGH LEVEL APPROACH ON U.S. CITIZEN REPATRIATION
AND U.S. FAMILY REUNIFICATION CASES

FOR SONNENFELDT/HARTMAN FROM AMBASSADOR

1. GERMAN EXPERIENCE IN RAISING EMIGRATION MATTERS AT
HIGH LEVEL SUGGESTS THAT IT MIGHT BE USEFUL TO CONSIDER
HAVING THE SECRETARY RAISE THE GENERAL QUESTION OF
EMIGRATION CASES INVOLVING DIRECT U.S. INTEREST.

2. FRG AMBASSADOR SHAM HAS TOLD ME THAT BHAR RAISED
THE QUESTION OF GERMAN EMIGRATION (ETHNIC GERMANS LIVING
IN THE USSR) WITH BREZHNEV. BHAR TOOK THE LINE THAT
PAST INCREASES IN EMIGRATION WERE USEFUL AND THAT "THE
MORE EMIGRATION IS PERMITTED, THE FEWER DEMONSTRATIONS
THERE WILL BE" "REFERRING TO SEVERAL RECENT DEMONSTRATIONS
THAT THE FRG EMBASSY AND ELSEWHERE BY ETHNIC
GERMANS, USUALLY ENDING IN THEIR ARREST). BREZHNEV
REPORTEDLY RESPONDED POSITIVELY AND FIRST DEPUTY
FONMIN KUZNETSOV, IN LATER CONVERSATION WITH BAHR,
TOOK INITIATIVE IN BRINGING THE SUBJECT UP AND CONFIRMED
THAT "WE TAKE A POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARD CONTINUED EMIGRATION."
FYI: COMMUNIQUE OF BREZHEV BONN VISIT IN
MAY 1973 REFERRED TO DISCUSSION OF THIS ISSUE UNDER
RUBRIC OF "HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS." END FYI.

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3. I SUGGEST THAT THE SECRETARY BE GIVEN A BRIEF
TALKING POINT FOR HIS UPCOMING VISIT WHICH WOULD, IN
HUMANITARIAN CONTEXT, ASK FOR FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION
OF THE TWELVE PENDING CASES OF AMERICAN CITIZENS

(OF WHOM TEN ARE U.S.-BORN) SEEKING SOVIET EXIT PERMISSION FOR REPATRIATION TO THE UNITED STATES AND OF THE 220 CASES OF CLOSE RELATIVES OF AMERICAN CIZIZENS LONG SEEKING REUNIFICATION WITH THEIR FAMILIES IN THE U.S. (USG REPRESENTATION LIST XV). THE SECRETARY NEED NOT GO INTO SPECIFICS BUT COULD REFER TO REPRESENTATION LIST XV, COPIES OF WHICH WER PRESENTED TO FIRST DEPT. FONMIN KUZNETSOV IN MAY AND TO DOBRYNIN IN WASHINGTON IN JUNE OF LAST YEAR. IT SHOULD BE MADE CLEAR THAT WE ARE NOT REFERRING TO, IN THIS INSTANCE, EMIGRATION TO ISRAEL, ALTHOUGH A HIGH PROPORTION OF USG LIST APPEARS TO BE JEWISH. (WE NOTE, FUI, THAT THE FRG'S PROBLEM IS FAR GREATER IN MAGNITUDE THAN OURS -- INVOLVING BY SOME ESTIMATES 150,000 INDIVIDUALS -- AND THAT THE U.S. PROBLEM, THOUGH INVOLVING SEVER HUMAN HARSHIPS, WOULD THEREFORE BE A LESS COMPPICATED ONE FOR THE SOVIETS TO RESOLVE.)
STOESSEL

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